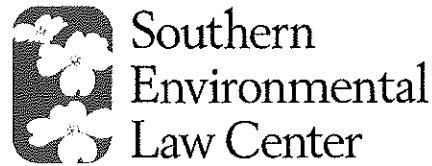


This letter has 129 attachments which are available  
at Regulations.Gov, under the tracking number  
"EPA-HQ-OW-2011-0880-17477"



November 5, 2013

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Science Advisory Board Review Panel  
Attn: Dr. Thomas Armitage, Designated Federal Officer (DFO)  
EPA Science Advisory Board Staff Office (1400 R)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20460

Office of Environmental Information  
Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OA-2013-0582  
Docket Mail Code: 28221T  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460

Dear Dr. Armitage and EPA Docket Staff:

Please make the enclosed materials available to the Panel for the Review of the EPA Water Body Connectivity Report. These materials include scientific information relevant to the assessment of the ways in which, and the degree to which, certain kinds of streams, wetlands, and other waters are connected biologically, chemically, and/or physically to other water bodies.

In general, the materials include:

- Comments submitted regarding a 2003 Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking concerning streams and wetlands. Numerous parties, including dozens of state and tribal natural resource agencies, submitted technical analysis, scientific citations, and data concerning aquatic resources at risk in particular states or regions, as well as nationally.
- Governmental reports examining the values provided by streams and wetlands.
- Published journal articles specifically examining wetland and stream functions.

NOV 05 2013

- Reports from public interest organizations collecting scientific information on various services performed by headwater streams and wetlands.

Many of these documents also contain policy and legal analysis, which likely will be of interest to EPA and the Army Corps in their development of rules, but we submit these materials to the review panel in order that the panel has access to a broad portfolio of scientific evidence, not merely studies in the formal academic literature. We understand that the panel will not consider the non-scientific aspects of these materials; this is appropriate in view of the panel's more limited charge.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in making these materials a part of the evidence available for the panel's consideration. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact either of us at [jdevine@nrdc.org](mailto:jdevine@nrdc.org) or at [nbermudez@selcdc.org](mailto:nbermudez@selcdc.org).

Sincerely,

Jon P. Devine, Jr.  
Senior Attorney, Water Program  
Natural Resources Defense Council

Navis Bermudez  
Deputy Legislative Director  
Southern Environmental Law Center